United Nations S/PV.6500

Security Council

Sixty-sixth year

Provisional

6500th meeting

Tuesday, 22 March 2011, 10 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Li Baodong	(China)
Members:	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Ms. Čolaković
	Brazil	Mr. Fernandes
	Colombia	Mr. Osorio
	France	Mr. Araud
	Gabon	Mr. Messone
	Germany	Mr. Wittig
	India	Mr. Gupta
	Lebanon	Mr. Karanouh
	Nigeria	Mrs. Ogwu
	Portugal	Mr. Vaz Patto
	Russian Federation	Mr. Churkin
	South Africa	Mr. Laher
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Mark Lyall Grant
	United States of America	Mrs. DiCarlo

Agenda

The situation in Afghanistan

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (S/2011/120)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Afghanistan

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (S/2011/120)

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): Under rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representative of Afghanistan to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2011/147, containing the text of a draft resolution submitted by Germany.

I wish to draw the attention of Council members to document S/2011/120, containing the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security, and document S/2011/118, containing a note verbale dated 4 March 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Afghanistan addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a letter dated 1 March 2011 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan addressed to the Secretary-General.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, Colombia, France, Gabon, Germany, India, Lebanon, Nigeria, Portugal, Russian Federation, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 1974 (2011).

I now give the floor to the Permanent Representative of Afghanistan.

Mr. Tanin (Afghanistan): Let me begin by thanking you, Sir, for convening today's meeting, at which the Council has adopted resolution 1974 (2011), extending the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan for an additional 12 months. Afghanistan welcomes the adoption of today's resolution as an important step towards strengthening our partnership with the United Nations and the international community. The United Nations offers a vital contribution in the effort to achieve peace, security and stability in Afghanistan. For this, the people and Government of Afghanistan are grateful.

The resolution adopted today is important for several reasons. It signifies the United Nations continuing commitment to supporting the people and Government of Afghanistan. The resolution underscores Afghan ownership and leadership, and calls for a more focused United Nations approach that is in line with the transition to Afghan ownership and leadership and seeks to streamline the activities of the United Nations and the United Nations family towards a One United Nations, in conformity with Afghanistan's national priority programmes. We also welcome the review of the United Nations mandate and support before the end of the year. We look forward to the review as an important measure for furthering the effectiveness of the United Nations role in Afghanistan.

As Afghanistan embarks on the process of transition, the role of the United Nations will remain crucial in the years to come. We attach great importance to our partnership with the United Nations and other international partners, whose steadfast commitment and contributions have helped us come this far. We look forward to strengthening this partnership to realize our shared goal of peace in Afghanistan through the transition and beyond.

I thank Council members for their contribution to the resolution just adopted. I also wish to extend our appreciation to the delegation of Germany and Ambassador Peter Wittig and his colleagues for facilitating the negotiations on the resolution.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 10.15 a.m.